

House Resolution No. 2487

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State educational institutions that are committed to keeping knowledge of the past alive for the edification of current and future generations; and

Whereas, Harris-Stowe University is the location of the former Stars Park, which was the home field where the Negro League baseball team known as the "Stars" played for many years; and

Whereas, Stars Park opened on July 9, 1922, when Saint Louis Mayor Henry Kiel threw out the ceremonial first pitch to start the game that the Stars players lost 4-0 against the Indianapolis A.B.C.'s in a matchup that pitted the Stars pitcher, James "Cool Papa" Bell, against visitors pitcher James Jeffries; and

Whereas, the history of the Stars team can be traced to 1910 when the Saint Louis Giants Baseball Club was formed and played at Giants Park on North Broadway; and

Whereas, the Saint Louis Giants became a charter member of the Negro National League when that organization was formed in 1920, and just two years later a change in ownership of the Giants resulted in a name change to "Stars"; and

Whereas, Stars Park was built along Compton from Market to Dexter streets with a pavilion extending from the grandstand along Market and with bleachers built along Cardinal to bring seating capacity up to 10,000; and

Whereas, Stars Park was the home of the Stars Negro League baseball team when its players won the 1928 and 1930 Championships, and it remained in service until the 1931 season; and

Whereas, the historic Stars Park site is now part of the Harris-Stowe University athletic field where a freestanding permanent marker will be dedicated by the Ballpark Marker Committee of the Bob Broeg Chapter of the Society for American Baseball Research on May 2, 2007:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the history, goals, and accomplishments associated with Harris-Stowe University and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt best wishes as they place a commemorative marker at the site of historic Stars Park on May 2, 2007; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to Harris-Stowe University.

Offered by _____
Representative Robin Wright Jones
District No. 63

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 2487, adopted April 23, 2007.

Rod Jetton, Speaker